

**PENDING CLAIMS AS AMENDED**

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Previously Presented) A method for transmitting control channel information in a telecommunication system including an access network and an access terminal, comprising:
  - transmitting a packet to said access terminal during a first time period, said packet including unicast information associated with said access terminal; and
  - transmitting a set of overhead parameters during a second time period, said overhead parameters including system configuration information associated with said access network.
2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising transmitting a signature during said first time period, said signature being linked to said set of overhead parameters.

3-5. (Cancelled)

6. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for transmitting control channel information in a communication system, comprising:
  - an access network configured to transmit a packet to an access terminal during a first time period, said packet including unicast information associated with said access terminal, said access network further configured to transmit a set of overhead parameters during a second time period, said overhead parameters including system configuration information associated with said access network.
7. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 6, wherein said access network is further configured to transmit a signature during said first time period, said signature being linked to said set of overhead parameters.

8-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) A method for monitoring a control channel in a telecommunication system including an access network and an access terminal, comprising:

receiving a packet including unicast information associated with ~~directed to~~ said access terminal during a first time period;

receiving a signature during said first time period; and

determining whether to monitor said control channel to receive a set of overhead parameters during a second time period, based at least in part on said received signature.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein said signature is linked to said set of overhead parameters.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, wherein said determining further includes:

monitoring said control channel only during said first time period, if said signature indicates that said set of overhead parameters is up to date.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, further comprising:

entering a sleep mode at the end of said first time period, if said signature indicates that said set of overhead parameters is up to date.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, wherein said determining further includes:

monitoring said control channel to receive said set of overhead parameters during said second time period, if said signature indicates that said set of overhead parameters is not up to date.

16. (Currently Amended) An access terminal for monitoring a control channel in a telecommunication system, comprising:

means for receiving a packet including unicast information associated with directed to said access terminal during a first time period;

means for receiving a signature during said first time period; and

means for determining whether to monitor said control channel to receive a set of overhead parameters during a second time period, based at least in part on said received signature.

17. (Previously Presented) The access terminal of claim 16, wherein said signature is linked to said set of overhead parameters.

18. (Previously Presented) The access terminal of claim 17, wherein said means for determining further includes:

means for monitoring said control channel only during said first time period, if said signature indicates that said set of overhead parameters is up to date.

19. (Previously Presented) The access terminal of claim 18, further comprising:

means for entering a sleep mode at the end of said first time period, if said signature indicates that said set of overhead parameters is up to date.

20. (Previously Presented) The access terminal of claim 18, wherein said means for determining further includes:

means for monitoring said control channel to receive said set of overhead parameters during said second time period, if said signature indicates that said set of overhead parameters is not up to date.

21. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium embodying a method for monitoring a control channel in a telecommunication system, said method comprising:

receiving a packet including unicast information associated with directed to an access terminal during a first time period;

receiving a signature during said first time period; and

determining whether to monitor said control channel to receive a set of overhead parameters during a second time period, based at least in part on said received signature.

22. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 21, wherein said signature is linked to said set of overhead parameters.

23. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 22, wherein said determining further includes:

monitoring said control channel only during said first time period, if said signature indicates that said set of overhead parameters is up to date.

24. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 23, wherein said method further comprising:

entering a sleep mode at the end of said first time period, if said signature indicates that said set of overhead parameters is up to date.

25. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 22, wherein said determining further includes:

monitoring said control channel to receive said set of overhead parameters during said second time period, if said signature indicates that said set of overhead parameters is not up to date.

26. (Previously Presented) An access network for transmitting control channel information in a telecommunication system, comprising:

means for transmitting a packet to an access terminal during a first time period, said packet including unicast information associated with said access terminal; and

means for transmitting a set of overhead parameters during a second time period, said overhead parameters including system configuration information associated with said access network.

27. (Previously Presented) The access network of claim 26, further comprising means for transmitting a signature during said first time period, said signature being linked to said set of overhead parameters.

28-29. (Cancelled)

30. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium embodying a method for transmitting control channel information in a telecommunication system, said method comprising:

transmitting a packet to an access terminal during a first time period, said packet including unicast information associated with said access terminal; and

transmitting a set of overhead parameters during a second time period, said overhead parameters including system configuration information associated with an access network.

31. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 30, wherein said method further comprises transmitting a signature during said first time period, said signature being linked to said set of overhead parameters.

32. (Currently Amended) An access terminal for monitoring a control channel in a telecommunication system, comprising:

a receiver unit configured to receive:

a packet including unicast information associated with said access terminal during a first time period; and

a signature during said first time period; and

a controller configured to instruct said receiver unit whether to receive a set of overhead parameters during a second time period, based at least in part on said received signature.

33. (Previously Presented) An access network for transmitting control channel information in a telecommunication system, comprising:

a transmitter unit configured to transmit:

a packet to an access terminal during a first time period, said packet including unicast information associated with said access terminal; and

a controller configured to instruct said transmitter unit to transmit a set of overhead parameters during a second time period, said overhead parameters including system configuration information associated with said access network.

34. (Previously Presented) The access network of claim 33, wherein said transmitter unit is further configured to transmit a signature during said first time period, said signature being linked to said set of overhead parameters.

35. (Previously Presented) The access terminal of claim 32, wherein said signature is linked to said set of overhead parameters.